

## L A Y

in hand, that they said they would never bear arms more against the Turks, if he omitted that occasion. *Kuclies.*

To LAY, *v. n.*

1. To bring eggs.  
Hens will greedily eat the herb which will make them lay the better. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

2. To contrive.

Which mov'd the king,  
By all the aptest means could be procur'd,  
To lay to draw him in by any train. *Daniel's Civil War.*

3. To LAY about. To strike on all sides; to act with great diligence and vigour.

At once he wards and strikes, he takes and pays,  
Now forc'd to yield, now forcing to invade,  
Before, behind, and round about him lays. *Fa. Queen.*

And laid about in fight more busily,  
Than th' Amazonian dame Penthesile. *Hudibras.*

In the late successful rebellion, how studiously did they lay about them, to cast a slur upon the king. *South's Sermons.*

He provides elbow-room enough for his conscience to lay about, and have its full play in. *South's Sermons.*

4. To LAY at. To strike; to endeavour to strike.

Piercely the good man did at him lay,  
The blade off groaned under the blow. *Spenser's Pastoral.*

The sword of him that layeth at him cannot hold. *Job.*

5. To LAY in for. To make overtures of oblique invitation.

I have laid in for thee, by rebating the satire, where justice would allow it, from carrying too sharp an edge. *Dryden.*

6. To LAY on. To strike; to beat.

His heart laid on as if it try'd,  
To force a passage through his side. *Hudibras.*

Answer, or answer not, 'tis all the same,  
He lays me on, and makes me bear the blame. *Dryden.*

7. To LAY on. To act with vehemence.

My father has made her mistress  
Of the feast, and she lays it on. *Shakef. Winter's Tale.*

8. To LAY out. To take measures.

Those ants knew some days after they had nothing to fear,  
and began to lay out their corn in the sun. *Adelphi Guard.*

I made strict enquiry wherever I came, and laid out for intelligence of all places, where the intrails of the earth were laid open. *Woodward.*

LAY, *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. A row; a stratum.

A viol should have a lay of wire-strings below, as close to the belly as the lute, and then the strings of guts mounted upon a bridge as in ordinary viols, that the upper strings stricken might make the lower resound. *Bacon.*

Upon this they lay a layer of stone, and upon that a lay of wood. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

2. A wagger.

It is esteemed an even lay, whether any man lives ten years longer; I suppose it is the same, that one of any ten might die within one year. *Grant's Bill of Mortality.*

LAY, *n. f.* [ley, leay, Saxon; ley, Scottish.] Grassy ground; meadow; ground unplowed, and kept for cattle: more frequently, and more properly, written *lea*.

A tuft of daisies on a flow'ry lay  
They saw. *Dryden's Flower and Leaf.*

The plowing of *layes* is the first plowing up of grass ground for corn. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

LAY, *n. f.* [lay, French.] It is said originally to signify sorrow or complaint, and then to have been transferred to poems written to express sorrow. It is derived by the French from *l'effus*, Latin, a funeral song; but it is found likewise in the Teutonic dialect: *ley*, leot, Saxon; *ley*, Danish.] A song; a poem.

To the maiden's founding timbrels sung,  
In well attuned notes, a joyous lay. *Spenser's Fairy Queen.*

Soon he slumber'd, fearing not be harm'd,  
The whiles with a loud lay, the thus him sweetly charm'd. *Spenser's Fairy Queen, b. ii.*

This is a most majestic vision, and  
Harmonious charming lays. *Shakefpeare's Tempest.*

Nor then the solemn nightingale  
Ceas'd warbling, but all night tun'd her soft lays. *Milton.*

If Jove's will  
Have link'd that amorous power to thy soft lay, *Milton.*

Now timely sing.  
He reach'd the nymph with his harmonious lay, *Waller.*

Whom all his charms could not incline to stay.  
On Ceres let him call, and Ceres praise,  
With uncouth dances, and with country lays. *Dryd. Virg.*

Ev'n gods incline their ravish'd ears,  
And tune their own harmonious spheres  
To his immortal lay. *Dennis.*

LAY, *adj.* [laicus, Latin; λαϊκός, Greek.] Not clerical; regarding or belonging to the people as distinct from the clergy.

All this they had by law, and none repin'd,  
The preference was but due to Levi's kind:  
But when some lay preferment fell by chance,  
The Gourmands made it their inheritance. *Dryden.*

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Laz persons, married or unmarried, being doctors of the civil law, may be chancellors, officials, &c. *Ayliffe's Parerg.*

It might well flatter  
Our lay unlearned faith. *Rowe's Ambitious Step Mother.*

LAY, *n. f.* [from lay.]

1. A stratum, or row; a bed; one body spread over another.

A layer of rich mould beneath, and about this natural earth to nourish the fibres. *Boyle's Kalendar.*

The terrestrial matter is disposed into strata or layers, placed one upon another, in like manner as any earthy sediment, settling down from a flood in great quantity, will naturally be. *Woodward's Natural History.*

2. A sprig of a plant.

Many trees may be propagated by layers: this is to be performed by flitting the branches a little way, and laying them under the mould about half a foot; the ground should be first made very light, and, after they are laid, they should have a little water given them: if they do not comply well in the laying of them down, they must be pegged down with a hook or two; and if they have taken sufficient root by the next winter, they must be cut off from the main plants, and planted in the nursery: some twist the branch, or bare the rind; and if it be out of the reach of the ground, they fasten a tub or basket near the branch, which they fill with good mould, and lay the branch in it. *Milner.*

Transplant also carnation seedlings, give your layers fresh earth, and set them in the shade for a week. *Boyle's Kal.*

3. A hen that lays eggs.

The oldest are always reckoned the best fitters, and the youngest the best layers. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

LAYMAN, *n. f.* [lay and man.]

1. One of the people distinct from the clergy.

Laymen will neither admonish one another themselves, nor suffer ministers to do it. *Government of the Tongue.*

Since a truth must be, lay thought it best  
To put it out of laymen's power at least,  
And for their solemn vows prepar'd a priest. *Dryden.*

Where can be the grievance, that an ecclesiastical landlord should expect a third part value for his lands, his title as ancient, and as legal, as that of a layman, who is seldom guilty of giving such beneficial bargains. *Swift.*

2. An image.

You are to have a layman almost as big as the life for every figure in particular, besides the natural figure before you. *Dryden's Dufresne.*

LAYSTALL, *n. f.* An heap of dung.

Scarce could he footing find in that foul way,  
For many corles, like a great lay-stall.

Of murdered men, which therein strewed lay. *Fa. Q.*

LAZAR, *n. f.* [from Lazarus in the gospel.] One deformed and nauseous with filthy and pestilential diseases.

They ever after in most wretched case,  
Like loathsome lazars, by the hedges lay. *Fairy Queen.*

I'll be sworn and sworn upon't, the never shrowed any but lazars. *Shakefpeare's Trail and Cressida.*

I am weary with drawing the deformities of life, and lazars of the people, where every figure of imperfection more resembles me. *Dryden's Aurengzebe.*

Life he labours to refine  
Daily, nor of his little stock denies  
Fit alms, to lazars, merciful, and meek. *Philips.*

LAZAR-HOUSE, *n. f.* [lazaret, French; lazaretto, Italian; LAZARETTO, from lazaret.] A house for the reception of the diseased; an hospital.

A place  
Before his eyes appear'd, sad, noisome, dark,  
A lazaret-house it seem'd, where were laid  
Numbers of all diseases. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi.*

LAZARWORT, *n. f.* A plant.

LAZILY, *adv.* [from lazily.] Idly; sluggishly; heavily.

Watch him at play, when following his own inclinations;  
and see whether he be stirring and active, or whether he lazily and listlessly dreams away his time. *Locke.*

The eastern nations view the rising fires,  
Whilst night shades us, and lazily retires. *Cruch.*

LAZINESS, *n. f.* [from lazily.] Idleness; sluggishness; heaviness to action.

That instance of fraud and laziness, the unjust steward, who pleaded that he could neither dig nor beg, would quickly have been brought both to dig and to beg too, rather than starve. *South's Sermon.*

My fortune you have rescued, not only from the power of others, but from my own modesty and laziness. *Dryden.*

LAZING, *adj.* [from lazily.] Sluggish; idle.

The hands and the feet nurtured against the belly: they knew no reason, why the one should be lazings, and pampering itself with the fruit of the other's labour. *L'Estrange.*

The lot cried, *Utinam hoc esset laborare*, while he lay lazings and lolling upon his couch. *South's Sermon.*

LAZULI, *n. f.*

The ground of this stone is blue, veined and spotted with white,

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white, and a glittering or metallic yellow: it appears to be composed of, first, a white sparry, or crystalline matter; a secondly, flakes of the golden or yellow talc; thirdly, a shining yellow substance; this fumes off in the calcination of the stone, and casts a sulphureous smell; fourthly, a bright blue substance, of great use among the painters, under the name of ultramarine; and when rich, is found, upon trial, to yield about one-sixth of copper, with a very little silver. *Woodward's Metallick Fossils.*

L'AZY, *adj.* [This word is derived by a correspondent, with great probability, from a *l'aise*, French; but it is however Teutonic: *l'ijer* in Danish, and *l'ijsh* in Dutch, have the same meaning; and *Spelman* gives this account of the word: *Dividebantur antiqui Saxones, ut testatur Nithardus, in tres ordines; Edhilingos, Frilingos & Lazzos; hoc est nobiles, ingenuos & serviles: quam & nos distinctionem diu retinimus. Sed Ricardo autem secundo pars fervorum maxima se in libertatem vindicavit; sic ut hodie apud Anglos rarior invenitur servus, qui mancipium dicitur. Restat nihilominus antique appellationis commemoratio. Ignavos enim hodie *l'azie* dicimus.]*

1. Idle; sluggish; unwilling to work.

Our soldiers, like the night-owl's lazy flight,  
Or like a lazy thrasher with a flail,  
Fall gently down, as if they struck their friends. *Shakef.*

Wicked condemned men will ever live like rogues, and not fall to work, but be lazy, and spend victuals. *Bacon.*

Whose lazy waters without motion lay. *Rescommon.*

The lazy glutton safe at home will keep,  
Indulge his sloth, and batten with his sleep. *Dryden.*

Like Eastern kings a lazy state they keep,  
And close confin'd in their own palace sleep. *Pope.*

What amazing stupidity is it, for men to be negligent of salvation themselves? to sit down lazy and unactive. *Rogers.*

2. Slow; tedious.

The ordinary method for recruiting their armies, was now too dull and lazy an expedient to resist this torrent. *Clarendon.*

LEA, *n. f.* [ley, Saxon; a fallow; leag, Saxon, a pasture.] Ground inclosed, not open.

Greatly agast with this piteous plea;  
Him rested the good man on the lea. *Spens. Pastoral.*

Ceres, most bounteous lady, thy rich leas  
Of wheat, rye, barley, fetches, oats and peas. *Shakef.*

Her fallow leas  
The darnel, hemlock, and rank fumitory  
Doth root upon. *Shakefpeare's Henry V.*

Dry thy harrow'd veins, and plough-torn leas,  
Whereof ingrateful man with liquorish draughts,  
And mortals unctuous, greases his pure mind. *Shakef.*

Such court guise,  
As Mercury did first devise,  
With the miming Dryades,  
On the lawns, and on the leas. *Milton.*

LEAD, *n. f.* [leas, Saxon.]

1. Lead is the heaviest metal except gold; for, though it is considerably lighter than quicksilver, as this wants malleability, it ought not to be reckoned in the class of metals.

Lead is the softest of all the metals, and very ductile, though less so than gold: it is very little subject to rust, and the least sonorous of all the metals except gold. The specific gravity of lead is to that of water as 11322 to 1000. Lead, when kept in fusion over a common fire, throws up all other bodies, except gold, that are mixed, all others being lighter, except Mercury, which will not bear that degree of heat: it afterwards vitrifies with the baser metals, and carries them off, in form of scoria, to the sides of the vessel. The weakest acids are the best solvents for lead: it dissolves very readily in aqua fortis diluted with water, as also in vinegar. Gold, or silver, or copper, become brittle on being mixed with lead in fusion; and, if lead and tin be melted together, the tin is thrown up to the surface in little dusty globes. Lead is found in various countries, but abounds particularly in England, in several kinds of soils and stones. The smoke of the lead works at Mendip in Somersetshire is a prodigious annoyance, and subjects both the workmen, and the cattle that graze about them, to a mortal disease; trees that grow near them have their tops burnt, and their leaves and outcides discoloured and scorched. *Mil.*

Thou art a foul in bliss, but I am bound  
Upon a wheel of fire; that mine own tears  
Do scald like molten lead. *Shakefpeare's King Lear.*

Of lead, some I can shew you so like steel, and so unlike common lead ore, that the workmen call it steel ore. *Boyle.*

Lead is employed for the refining of gold and silver by the cupel; heretofore made common cerus with vinegar; of cerus, red lead; of plumbum utrum, the best yellow ochre; of lead, and half as much tin, folder for lead. *Gray.*

2. [In the plural.] Flat roof to walk on.

Stalls, bulks, windows,  
Are smother'd up, lead fill'd, and ridges hors'd  
With variable complexions; all agreeing  
In candellness to see him. *Shakefpeare's Coriolanus.*

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I would have the tower two stories, and goodly lead upon the top, raised with statues interposed. *Bacon.*

To LEAD, *v. a.* [from the noun.] To fit with lead in any manner.

He fashioneth the clay with his arm, he applieth himself to lead it over; and he is diligent to make clean the fil-nace. *Ezech. xxxviii. 30.*

There is a traverse placed in a loft, at the right hand of the chair, with a privy door, and a carved window of glass loaded with gold and blue, where the mother sitteth. *Bacon.*

To LEAD, *v. a.* preter. *I led.* [leean, Saxon; *liden*, Dutch.]

1. To guide by the hand.

There is a cliff, whose high and bending head  
Looks fearfully on the confined deep;  
Bring me but to the very brink of it,  
And I'll repair the misery, thou dost bear,  
With something rich about me: from that place  
I shall no leading need. *Shakef. King Lear.*

Doth not each on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? *Luke xiii. 15.*

They thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill. *Luke iv. 29.*

2. To conduct to any place.

Save to every man his wife and children, that they may lead them away, and depart. *1 Sam. xxx. 22.*

Then brought he me out of the way, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate. *Ezek. xlvii. 2.*

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. *Psal. xxiii. 2.*

3. To conduct as head or commander.

Would you lead forth your army against the enemy, and seek him where he is to fight? *Spenser on Ireland.*

He turns head against the lion's armed jaws;  
And being no more in debt to years than thou,  
Leads ancient lords, and rev'rend bishops, on  
To bloody battles. *Shakefpeare's Henry IV. p. i.*

I wonder much,  
Being men of such great leading as you are,  
That you foresee not what impediments  
Drag back our expedition. *Shakef. Henry IV. p. i.*

If thou wilt have  
The leading of thy own revenges, take  
One half of my commission, and set down  
As best thou art experienc'd. *Shakefpeare's Coriolanus.*

He led me on to mightiest deeds,  
Above the nerve of mortal arm,  
Against the uncircumcised, our enemies:  
But now hath cast me off. *Milton's Agonistes.*

Christ took not upon him flesh and blood, that he might conquer and rule nations, lead armies, or possess places. *South.*

He might muster his family up, and lead them out against the Indians, to seek reparation upon any injury. *Locke.*

4. To introduce by going first.

Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in. *Numb. xxvii. 17.*

His guide, as faithful from that day,  
As Helperus that leads the sun his way. *Fairfax, b. i.*

5. To guide; to show the method of attaining.

Human testimony is not so proper to lead us into the knowledge of the essence of things, as to acquaint us with the existence of things. *Watts's Logic.*

6. To draw; to entice; to allure.

Appoint him a meeting, give him a shew of comfort, and lead him on with a fine baited delay. *Shakefpeare.*

The lord Cottington, being a master of temper, knew how to lead him into a mistake, and then drive him into choler, and then expose him. *Clarendon.*

7. To induce; to prevail on by pleasing motives.

What I did, I did in honour,  
Led by th' impartial conduct of my soul. *Shakef. Hen. IV.*

He was driven by the necessities of the times, more than led by his own disposition, to any rigour of actions. *K. Charles.*

What I say will have little influence on those whole ends lead them to with the continuance of the war. *Swift.*

8. To pass; to spend in any certain manner.

The sweet woman *leas* an ill life with him. *Shakef.*

So shalt thou lead  
Safest thy life, and best prepar'd endure  
Thy mortal passage when it comes. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

Thim, fair Lavinia, thy surviving wife  
Shall breed in groves, to end a solitary life. *Dryden.*

Luther's life was led up to the doctrines he preached, and his death was the death of the righteous. *Fy. Aterbury.*

Celibacy, as then practised in the church of Rome, was commonly forced, taken up under a bold vow, and led in all uncleanness. *Francis Aterbury.*

This ditterment is most incident to such as lead a lecherous life. *Arbuthnot on Aments.*

To LEAD, *v. n.*

1. To go first, and show the way.

I will lead on forth, according as the cattle that graze before me, and the children be able to endure. *Gen. xxxii. 13 F.*

2. To